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May 5, 1977

Vincent Davis, Director  
Patterson Chair Professor  
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Admiral Stansfield Turner, USN  
Old Executive Office Building (Suite 347)  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Stan:-

Responding to your request when we talked in your offices on April 26, I returned to my offices here, gave a great deal of thought to our discussions, and prepared for you my reactions in writing. Because of my chronic affliction with prolixity, I have used far too many words. But I wanted you to know that I gave these matters the most serious consideration, and I wanted fully to share my thinking with you. Accordingly, this covering letter encloses enumerated Memoranda #1, #2, #3 and #4.

Unless you are a compulsive reader, you can skip over Memos #1, #2 and #3. They merely recapitulate at great length why I think I cannot or should not work directly and specifically for any federal department or agency (including your Agency), and why I am not as attractive a candidate as you may think.

The heart of the matter here is Memo #4, in which I outline in substantial detail the alternative proposal that came up at the end of our conversations on April 26. If this proposal should prove acceptable, I think it would be a good compromise between some of the possibilities that you had in mind, and some of the compelling factors that I see in my own case. In this situation, I would not be working officially and directly for you, but--unofficially, informally, and in my own mind--I would regard you as my mentor and guiding light. Indeed, I think that I could probably spend an average of about halftime each week working personally with you and Bob Bowie, although not technically in your employ or on your payroll, if all the terms suggested in Memo #4 could be met.

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If anything in any of the enclosures should offend you, feel free to reply with whatever strong language you like. Offense was not intended, and you don't have any words that I have not heard before. But, for my part, I will continue to regard you as a greatly admired and close personal friend, irrespective of the outcome of these discussions between us. I will always appreciate your generously flattering proposals and your many kindnesses. In a week or so, I will send another brief letter on matters only somewhat related to the points under review herein.

Warmest personal regards,

Enclosures

Vincent Davis

Programs of Professional Development, Research and Service in World Affairs for Kentucky, the Nation and the Global Community